

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3733

To authorize the National Science Foundation to make grants for applied engineering and technology education equipment and capital improvements.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 27, 1998

Mr. RYUN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To authorize the National Science Foundation to make grants for applied engineering and technology education equipment and capital improvements.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Applied Engineering
5 and Technology Center Investment Act of 1998”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

1 (1) fully accredited bachelor's degree academic
2 programs in plastics, electronic, mechanical, manu-
3 facturing, construction, wood, and automotive engi-
4 neering technology, and in technology management,
5 are a significant asset for the State and region in
6 which they are located, and for the Nation;

7 (2) graduates of academic programs described
8 in paragraph (1) are experiencing a nearly 100 per-
9 cent placement rate, entering the work force making
10 significant contributions to the productivity, effi-
11 ciency, and competitiveness of their particular com-
12 panies;

13 (3) the future preparation of America's work-
14 ers, industrial managers, and technicians depends on
15 the use of modern, state-of-the-art instructional
16 equipment that is very expensive and has a rather
17 short relevant life span; and

18 (4) it is sound educational policy to invest Fed-
19 eral dollars in programs and projects that directly
20 benefit and enhance the preparation of tomorrow's
21 leaders in technology and related industries which
22 make the United States more competitive in world
23 markets.

1 **SEC. 3. GRANT AUTHORITY.**

2 The Director of the National Science Foundation (in
3 this Act referred to as the “Director”) may make grants
4 to organizations that provide postsecondary education in
5 applied engineering and technology for equipment and
6 capital improvements needed to ensure that such edu-
7 cation is provided using state-of-the-art instructional
8 equipment and facilities. Amounts made available through
9 such grants may be used in support of applied engineering
10 and technology programs for any of the following pur-
11 poses:

12 (1) Purchase, rental, or lease of scientific or
13 laboratory equipment, including computer hardware
14 and software, for educational purposes, including in-
15 structional and research purposes.

16 (2) Construction, maintenance, renovation, and
17 improvement in classroom, library, laboratory, and
18 other instructional facilities.

19 (3) Acquisition of library books, periodicals,
20 microfilm, data bases, software, and other edu-
21 cational materials.

22 (4) Tutoring, counseling, and student service
23 programs designed to improve academic success.

24 (5) Funds and administrative management, and
25 acquisition of equipment for use in strengthening
26 funds management.

1 (6) Joint use of facilities, such as laboratories
2 and libraries.

3 (7) Establishing or improving a development of-
4 fice to strengthen or improve contributions from
5 alumni and the private sector.

6 (8) Establishing community outreach programs
7 which will encourage elementary and secondary stu-
8 dents to develop the academic skills and the interest
9 to pursue postsecondary applied engineering and
10 technology education.

11 (9) Other activities proposed in the application
12 submitted pursuant to section 4 that—

13 (A) contribute to carrying out the purposes
14 of this Act; and

15 (B) are approved by the Director as part
16 of the review and acceptance of such applica-
17 tion.

18 **SEC. 4. APPLICATIONS.**

19 (a) CONTENTS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—No organization shall receive
21 any grant under section 3 unless that organization
22 submits an application to the Director at such time,
23 in such manner, and containing or accompanied by
24 such information, as the Director may reasonably re-
25 quire. Each such application shall—

1 (A) provide that the payments under this
2 Act will be used for the purposes set forth in
3 section 3; and

4 (B) provide for making an annual report
5 to the Director and for conducting, except as
6 provided in paragraph (2), a financial and com-
7 pliance audit of the organization, with regard to
8 any funds obtained by it under this Act, at
9 least once every 2 years and covering the period
10 since the most recent audit, to be conducted by
11 a qualified, independent organization or person
12 in accordance with standards established by the
13 Comptroller General for the audit of govern-
14 mental organizations, programs, and functions,
15 and as prescribed in regulations of the Director,
16 the results of which shall be submitted to the
17 Director.

18 (2) AUDIT EXCEPTION.—An organization which
19 is audited under chapter 75 of title 31, United
20 States Code, shall not be required to perform an
21 audit under paragraph (1)(B) of this subsection for
22 the period covered by such chapter 75 audit.

23 (b) APPROVAL.—The Director shall approve any ap-
24 plication which meets the requirements of subsection (a)
25 and shall not disapprove any application submitted under

1 this Act, or any modification thereof, without first afford-
2 ing the applicant reasonable notice and opportunity for a
3 hearing.

4 (c) GOALS FOR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND ACA-
5 DEMIC PROGRAMS.—Any application for a grant under
6 this Act shall describe measurable goals for the organiza-
7 tion’s financial management and applied engineering and
8 technology academic programs and include a plan of how
9 the applicant intends to achieve those goals.

○